GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6504
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2005
SETTING UP OF BIO-FERTLIZER PRODUCTION UNITS
Athawale Shri Ramdas;Gudhe Shri Anantrao;Sharma Shri Madan Lal

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government under Central sector scheme `National Project on Development and use of Bio-fertilizer` is granting assistance to States for setting up of Bio-fertilizer production units;

(b) if so, the details of such assistance provided during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(c) whether any such assistance has also been provided to Jammu and Kashmir;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has received any proposal from the Government of Maharashtra for setting up of bio-fertilizer plant;

(f) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(g) whether the Government proposes to fix norms for compost, vermiculture and bio- fertilizers including them under Fertilizer Control Order, 1985; and

(h) if so, by when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a) to (d): Under the Central sector scheme `National Project on Development and use of Bio-fertilizer`, financial assistance of Rs 20.00 lakhs per unit was provided for setting up Bio- fertilizer units during 9th plan and 2002-03. The scheme has been subsumed under a new Central sector scheme `National Project on Organic Farming` with effect from October, 2004. Under the new scheme financial assistance for setting up bio-fertilizer production units @ 25% of the project cost up to a maximum of Rs 20.00 lakhs is being provided as credit linked back ended subsidy through National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and National Co-operative Development Corporation (NCDC). A statement indicating State wise financial assistance released during 2002-03 and 2003-04 is enclosed. Under the new scheme no state-wise allocation is made. During 2004-05 an amount Rs 40.00 lakh has been released to NABARD for setting up of Bio-fertilizer units and a provision of Rs 300.00 lakh has been made for the year 2005-06.

(e) & (f): Proposals received from the Government of Maharashtra during 9th Plan were considered and 14 such proposals were sanctioned for setting up of Bio-fertilizer production units.

(g) & (h): The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) have notified specifications for bio-fertilizers namely Rhizobium, Azotobactor, Azospirillum and Phosphate Solublising Bacterial Innoculant (PSBI). The inclusion of specifications of organic inputs in the Fertilizer Control Order, 1985(FCO) is being examined.

Annexure

State-wise funds released under Central Sector Scheme `National Project on Development and Use of Bio-fertilizers` for setting up of Bio-fertilizer production Units

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	Name of State	2002-03	2003-04
1	Karnataka#	7.00	3.00
2	Kerala	5.00	0.00
3	Maharashtra	30.00	0.00
4	Arunachal Pradesh	5.00	0.00
5	Assam	10.00	0.00
	Total	57.00	3.00

= Second Instalment